

REMARKS

Claims 16-19 have been canceled. Claims 1-15, and 20-24 are pending in the Application.

The Examiner requested that the Applicant elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. The Examiner also indicated that currently, no claims appear to be generic. Applicant disagrees in view of the cancellation of claims 16-19.

Applicant partially traverses this request for restriction between the particular species identified, but as requested, in order to be responsive, hereby provisionally elects the claims associated with Embodiment I (Figures 1 & 2A-2B) of the invention to be examined. Claims 1-15, and 20-24 are considered to read thereon.

However, as indicated above, and for the reasons given below, Applicant traverses the restriction requirement on the grounds that at least two of the three species defined are not patentably distinct. Applicant contends that Claim 1 is a generic claim that covers both Embodiment I and Embodiment II, as defined by the Examiner. Embodiment I corresponds to Figures 1 and 2A-2B, Embodiment II corresponds to Figures 3A-3B. Applicant contends that Claim 1 is written to encompass all the embodiments illustrated in Figures 1, 2A-2B, and 3A-3B.

Claim 1 claims the following:

<i>Claim Language</i>	<i>Fig. 1, 2A-2B Reference numerals on figures</i>	<i>Figs. 3A-3B Reference numerals on figures</i>
A detector assembly , comprising:		
a support element configured to attach	121	321
the detector assembly		
to a chamber wall that separates	113	313
a lower pressure region	111	311
and a higher pressure region ;	105	305
a first capacitor plate	123	323
and a second capacitor plate ,	125	325
a surface of the second capacitor plate being spaced apart from a surface of the first capacitor plate to define a capacitor gap ,	112	312
the first capacitor plate being positioned to be inside the lower pressure region when the detector assembly is attached to the chamber wall,	123 is in the 111 region	323 is in the 311 region
the second capacitor plate being supported by the support element through insulating couplings ; and	125 is supported by 121 though 128	352 is supported by 321 through 328
<u>means for reducing mechanical load</u> on the insulating couplings between the second capacitor plate and the support element,	Fig. 1A embodiment 140, 150, etc.	Fig. 3A embodiment 319, 350, etc.
the reduced mechanical load including load caused by a pressure difference between the lower and higher pressure regions.		

From the table above, Applicant contends that each feature of the generic claim 1, can be found in Embodiments I and II, and therefore contends that restriction between these two embodiments should not be required. It is the means of reducing the mechanical load that is different for each of the embodiments represented by Embodiment I and Embodiment II, and

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these differences currently appear in the dependent claims. The limitations introduced into the dependent claims which define the means of reducing the mechanical load are the elements that are considered mutually exclusive of one another. Claim 1 recites limitations that are found in multiple embodiments, and is therefore considered to encompass a generic claim that is directed to two of the three species suggested.

Similarly Claim 20-24 are considered to be generic to both Embodiments I and II.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the Application is in condition for allowance and such favorable action is respectfully requested.

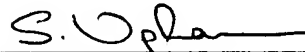
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-3267.

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